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Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 5113th meeting of the Security Council, held on 18 January 2005, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council welcomes the briefing by the Chairman of the Counter-Terrorism Committee on the work of the Committee.

"The Security Council reaffirms that terrorism in all its forms and manifestations constitutes one of the most serious threats to peace and security and that any acts of terrorism are criminal and unjustifiable, regardless of their motivation, whenever and by whomsoever committed.

"The Security Council recalls the statement by its President on 19 October 2004 (S/PRST/2004/37), which indicated the Council's intention to review the structure and activities of the CTC, resolution 1535 (2004) on the revitalization of the Committee and resolution 1566 (2004) emphasizing the urgent need to strengthen international cooperation in combating terrorism.

"The Security Council invites the CTC to pursue its agenda as set out in the work programme for the CTC's fourteenth 90-day period (S/2005/22). It invites the CTC in particular to ensure that Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate becomes fully operational in the shortest possible time, and to take additional measures to enhance cooperation with the Al Qaeda/Taliban Sanctions Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999) and the Committee established pursuant to resolution to initiate contacts with the working group established pursuant to resolution 1566 (2004).

"The Security Council notes the importance of continuing the CTC's efforts in the following key areas: to enhance the capabilities of Member States to combat terrorism; to identify and address the problems faced by States in implementing resolution 1373 (2001); to facilitate the provision of technical assistance and cooperation adjusted to the recipient countries' needs; to encourage the largest possible number of States to become parties to the international conventions and protocols related to counter-terrorism, and to strengthen its dialogue and cooperation with international, regional and subregional organizations acting in the areas outlined by resolution 1373 (2001).

05-21187 (E) 180105 * **0521187*** "The Security Council welcomes the intention of the CTC to hold its Fourth special meeting with international, regional and subregional organizations from 26 to 28 January 2005 in Almaty, Kazakhstan.

"The Security Council invites the CTC to accelerate the preparation of assessments of Member States' assistance needs so that these can be shared with the relevant States and, in due course, with interested donor States and organizations. The Council invites the CTC to conduct the first of its visits to Member States in March 2005 in order to enhance the Committee's monitoring of the implementation of resolution 1373 (2001) and to facilitate the provision of technical and other assistance for such implementation.

"The Security Council notes that, as of 16 December 2004, 75 States had not submitted their respective reports to the CTC in time as set out in resolution 1373 (2001). It calls on them urgently to do so, in order to maintain the universality of response which the threat of terrorism and the implementation of resolution 1373 (2001) require.

"The Security Council invites the CTC to continue reporting on its activities at regular intervals."